

OGC HAS REVIEWED.

4 September 1953

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director (Intelligence)

SUBJECT : Rewards and Asylum for Informers on the Introduction of Fissionable Material

1. The IIC and the ICIB recommend that legislation be sought to authorize rewards and, as a further inducement, to grant asylum in the United States for any informant or defector who supplies information leading to the recovery or acquisition of atomic weapons or fissionable material which has been illegally introduced or illegal introduction of which has been attempted in the United States.

2. The question has been presented whether legislation is necessary in view of the authorities given to the Central Intelligence Agency. Information relating to the introduction of fissionable material into the United States is most certainly intelligence relating to national security and, therefore, within the general statutory charter of CIA as set forth in the National Security Act of 1947. Also, that statute provides that the Agency shall perform such other functions and duties relating to intelligence affecting the national security as the National Security Council may from time to time direct.

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as amended. Section 10 of that Act provides that, notwithstanding any other provisions of law, sums made available to the Agency by appropriation or otherwise may be expended for purposes necessary to carry out its functions. Therefore, if funds are made available the Agency could pay rewards for information, if so directed by the National Security Council. Since the Agency's budgets for Fiscal Years 1954 and 1955 make no provision for funds for this purpose, it would be necessary to obtain the approval of the Bureau of the Budget to make such funds available out of the reserve. Consequently, it

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would seem appropriate that the Director of the Bureau of the Budget attend the session of the National Security Council which considers this matter and at that time specifically rule on the availability of funds from the reserve.

4. In connection with the granting of asylum, by which we assume is meant the entry for permanent residence of an individual into the United States, CIA was given authority in Section 8 of its Act to bring into the country for permanent residence not to exceed 100 aliens in any one fiscal year, without regard to normally applicable laws and regulations. Such action requires the concurrence of the Attorney General and the Commissioner of Immigration and Naturalization. Therefore, again the session of the National Security Council considering this problem should be attended by the Attorney General for final action in this regard. It should be pointed out that it might not be necessary to use his authority and might be preferable to use a private bill in Congress or existing regular statutory authorities, but the authority to use the CIA statutory power should be considered, inasmuch as it may be required in the event all other means fail or are not deemed appropriate.

/ s/

LAWRENCE R. HOUSTON  
General Counsel

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